



ST BARNABAS WITH CHRIST'S CHAPEL

# St Barnabas Dulwich

IS SEEKING A  
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES'  
MINISTER  
FROM EASTER 2022

[www.stbarnabasdulwich.org](http://www.stbarnabasdulwich.org)

# THE CHURCH & PARISH

St Barnabas is a thriving parish church, situated in Dulwich Village - a vibrant, primarily residential area in South London. There are several schools, including the local Church Infants' School and several reputable secondary schools connected to St Barnabas, plenty of green spaces and parks, and shops. Central London is accessible by train within 10 minutes. The demographic is mixed, with many international communities represented.

St Barnabas is a busy, middle-of-the-road Anglican Church, serving hundreds of families through monthly Family Communion Services with a congregation of 250+ adults and children, Crèche & Sunday School, a 150-strong Toddler Group, a monthly Messy Church with 300 families in its congregation, the 50-strong Dulwich Children's Choir, Parish & Community Events, schools' ministry, and 50 infant Baptisms each year. Our Messy Church has recently been chosen to appear on a BBC Songs of Praise episode, aired on 23rd January 2022. The look of the church is traditional (with robed clergy and a 40-strong adult choir), but there is a measure of informality in the service itself. Sacramentality is important to us as a Church: we prepare children for First Communion and explore Confirmation with our teenagers. We believe that together we grow as one Body of Christ and strive to share this communion with the whole Parish through our mission and ministry to them. In September, we welcomed over 700 adults and children to our Parish Fun Day, and on Christmas Eve, we saw almost 2000 people join us for our outdoor living nativity. We see children and families at the heart of the ministry of St Barnabas, and this is mirrored by the clergy commitment to this ministry. As a church, we delight in the myriad of ways children minister to us through serving, singing, reading and praying.



# THE ROLE

The role of the Childrens and Families' Minister will be to work with the clergy team to offer each child and family in our Parish community the opportunity to encounter God and grow in the Christian faith by helping them realise their place in the Body of Christ, express their faith in ways that are important to them, and to encourage and equip other members of St Barnabas to take leadership roles in this ministry. The Children's and Families' Minister will work closely with - and be supervised by - our Assistant Curate, Rachael Gledhill, as well as being supported by the whole clergy team and numerous volunteers.

Duties will include:

- Facilitating Sunday Children's Ministry Groups for 0 - 13s, which meet twice monthly
- Facilitating our weekly faith-based Toddler Group on Friday mornings
- Assisting clergy with the delivery of our Messy Church, which meets on the third Sunday of every month
- Supporting our monthly Family Communion Services & seasonal Family Events
- Facilitating day trips, residentials and/or holiday clubs and any other appropriate events for the various children's groups
- Working closely with the Assistant Curate, Clergy team & Director of Music to realise St Barnabas' vision for mission and ministry to children & families
- Advocating for children and families to the PCC

# TERMS & CONDITIONS

The role is full-time with a salary up to £27 000, with pension contribution, and an holiday entitlement is 28 days. We offer flexibility in terms of some home-working and in terms of the days and hours of work around a limited number of fixed points. The job is in the first instance for 2 years beginning at Easter 2022, with a 6 month probationary period. A September start for the right candidate would be considered.





# THE PERSON

The ideal candidate for this role would be someone who is passionate about mission and ministry to children and families and has the experience and skills required to work closely with the whole clergy team in delivering St Barnabas' vision for children and families. They should be a committed Christian who is confident in encouraging children to be fully immersed in the sacramental life of St Barnabas, whilst also enjoying the flexibility, creativity and joy of all-age worship. St Barnabas is an exceptionally well-resourced church and we are passionate about children growing as faith leaders, confident about their place in St Barnabas and their role in sharing the Good News with the world around them. The person should be a good communicator, able to teach children about the Christian faith, whilst also being dynamic and creative in their methods and facilitating spaces for children to encounter God themselves. At St Barnabas, we use a wide variety of methods to encourage children to explore faith in an imaginative and exciting way, drawing on the practices of sensory play, drama and role play, music, science experiments, indoor and outdoor play, and Makaton story-telling. The ideal candidate will use some of these methods and encourage the clergy team and congregation to learn new ones too.

They will be committed to including all children and have prior experience working with children with additional needs, or be willing to attend relevant training. They will need to have a working theological knowledge and be willing to share the inclusivity of the Good News we share here at St Barnabas. They will be highly-motivated, energetic, well-organised and good at encouraging and enabling children and volunteers. Above all, they will be passionate about ministry and mission to children within the Church of England.



# THE APPLICATION

Please send a CV and a cover letter to our Assistant Curate, Rachael Gledhill, and the Vicar, John Watson, explaining why you are interested in this role and the gifts and skills you could bring to St Barnabas by Tuesday 1st March. Rachael would also be happy to have an informal chat with anyone who might be interested in this role. Upon receipt of your CV, we will ask you to complete a Confidential Declaration and Diocesan safeguarding form. All appointments are subject to acceptable pre-appointment checks, including a satisfactory Enhanced DBC check. Interviews will take place in person with a mix of clergy, children and families, after our Family Communion Service on Sunday 6th March.

Assistant Curate, Rachael Gledhill - [rachael.gledhill@stbarnabasdulwich.org](mailto:rachael.gledhill@stbarnabasdulwich.org)

Vicar, John Watson, [vicar@stbarnabasdulwich.org](mailto:vicar@stbarnabasdulwich.org)

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